

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the sentence shown on Page 15, lines 21-22 with the following sentence:

A¹ Similarly, the identified sets of tables may be evaluated to minimize handling of
superfluous data ~~[[be]]~~ by choosing smaller tables where possible.

Please replace the sentence shown on Page 16, lines 3-5 with the following sentence:

A² In one embodiment, the ~~base selection module 318~~ intermediate table selection module
320 is embodied in one or more query assembly rules.